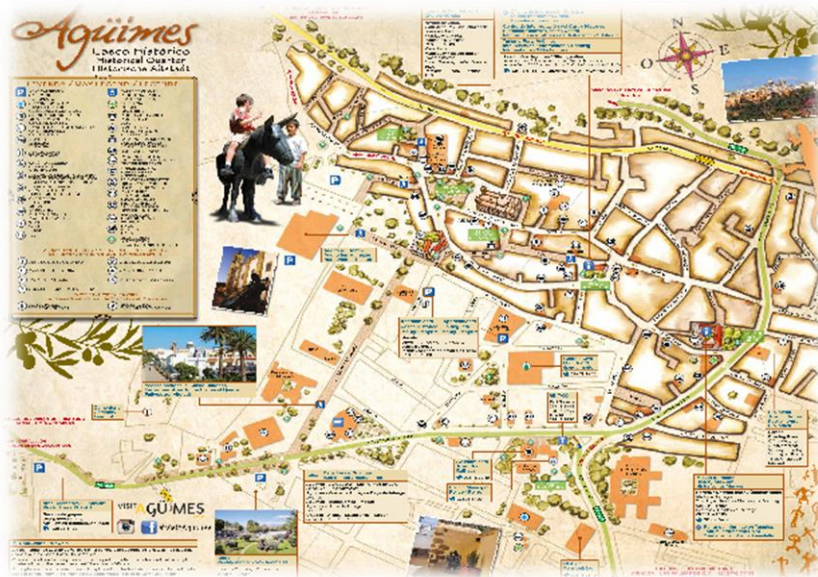




# A Virtual Travel Tour to Agüimes (Gran Canaria)



# Erasmus+

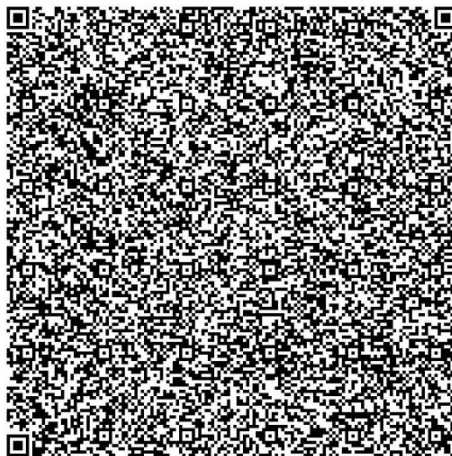
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## **COLLABORATION WITH THE TOWN HALL**

IES Playa de Arinaga contacted the Town Hall of our municipality, Agüimes, during the last academic year. Once they heard our proposal, they were really eager to collaborate with us, so the first thing they did was to send us all the information regarding the top ten spots worth visiting in Agüimes, as well as the most representative pictures.

Now that the QR Codes are created, they will print them and place them next to these spots so that the tourists can get to know the history and evolution of the municipality of Agüimes.

**Park of the Moors and Episcopal Palace**  
(Parque de los Moros y Palacio Episcopal)



## **Park of the Moors and Episcopal Palace**

(Parque de los Moros y Palacio Episcopal)

This house, built in the mid-eighteenth century, was owned by the Verdugo family. The house had an oil mill to grind the olives produced by the olive trees that this family had in Temisas. Manuel Verdugo y Albiturría, who was born in that family, was the last Bishop to be Lord of Agüimes. That is why the building is known as “Casas de Verdugo” or “Palacio Episcopal”.

The building was sold and divided into two parts at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century; one of them became a school until the 70s of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Today it is known as “Casa de Bethany”, because it belongs to this Christian association.

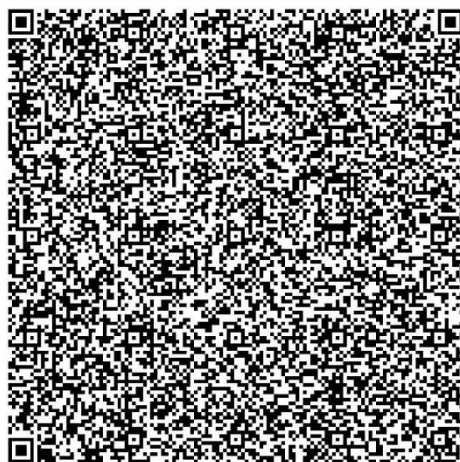
The other part of the building has had several owners throughout the twentieth century, highlighting the fact that from 1941 to 1948 the Staff of a “Tabor de Regulares” (regiment formed by soldiers from the Spanish Protectorate in Morocco) was installed there. These soldiers built the park that is known as “Parque de Los Moros”.

Since 2004, this part of the building has housed the “Agüimes History Museum”, which tells the story of the “Señorío de Agüimes” from the Castilian conquest of the island to the abolition of jurisdictional estates at the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

\*\* Translated by students from PLAYA DE ARINAGA HIGH SCHOOL, as part of the Erasmus + project “Smart phones for Smarter Students”, co-financed by the European Commission.\*\*

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**“Villa de Agüimes” Country Inn**  
(Hotel Rural Villa de Agüimes)



## **“Villa de Agüimes” Country Inn**

(Hotel Rural “Villa de Agüimes”)

In this place the “Corral del Consejo” was located, whose name makes reference to “Consejo de la Mesta”, an institution created in Castilla in The Middle Ages for the development and protection of the stockbreeding.

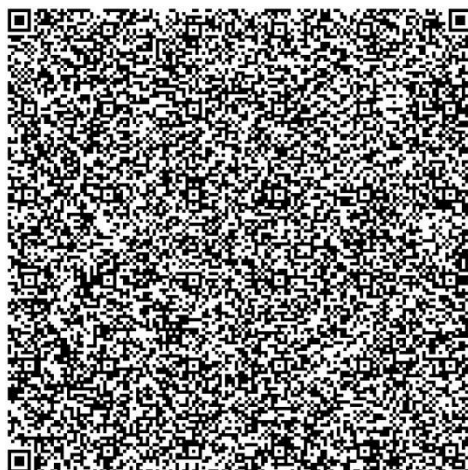
In this corral they separated and marked the flock of sheep and they kept the lost and stole goats and sheep, until they were requested by their owner. In 1901 it was decided to build a place for a school and town offices.

With the financing of the local government, the landed property of water and the group of the owner of pasture, the current modernist building was built. It opened in 1913. In the beginnings, it was home to the “Casas Consistoriales” (the town hall offices), the “Escuela Graduada de Niños” (a school) and the “Cárcel de Hombres” (a penitentiary centre), but nowadays it is a country inn.

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**Princess Catalina Hernández Guanarteme**  
(Princesa Catalina Hernández Guanarteme)



## **Princess Catalina Hernández Guanarteme**

(Princesa Catalina Hernández Guanarteme)

This sculpture represents Mrs. Catalina Hernández de Guanarteme. She was one of the daughters of Tenesor Semidán, who was baptized with the name of Fernando Guanarteme, the last guanarteme (king) of the island.

She has born in Córdoba where her mother, the queen Aberancha Chameneguer, was a prisoner. She had been captured during the conquest of Gran Canaria and taken to Alcázar de Córdoba, where she was held up until Tenesor Semidán was captured and then accepted the rendition to the Catholic Kings. The island was then annexed to the Crown of Castile.

Princess Catalina Hernández de Guanarteme lived the first years of her life in the peninsula, and then went to Gran Canaria, where she got married three times, two of them with Spanish men.

She died in Agüimes in 1526, due to the disaster of a disease called "the plague", while she was in the village visiting her family.

All the aborigines turned to Christianity when they were baptized. They were given a Christian name and the surname of their godfather, who was usually a soldier or a Spanish settler. For that reason the names and demonyms of the natives were disappearing, being replaced by European names and surnames. Mixed marriages between Canarian aborigines and European people were very common.

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# The Camel

(El Camello)



## The Camel

(El Camello)

The dromedaries (commonly called "camels" in the Canaries) were introduced into the islands after the conquest. They were used as a pack animal, since they are quite strong, much more than donkeys or mules. In some areas of the islands they were used for all kinds of agricultural work: ploughing, threshing, grinding the grain in the flour mills, pulling water out from the wells circling on the wheel... But their main use was that of beast of burden.

Their number increased considerably in Agüimes during the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries, when they were used to load building materials (stones, sand, lime, etc.) and to transport wheat, figs and olives to Telde and Las Palmas.

Their number began to decrease from the 19<sup>th</sup> century on, when roads began to improve and it was already possible to reach Agüimes in carts pulled by mules or oxen, although their number continued to be significant until the 20<sup>th</sup> century, when this area was mainly dedicated to the cultivation of tomato. At that time the camels carried boxes of tomatoes from the plantations that were far from the roads, to the warehouses where they were packaged for later shipment to Europe.

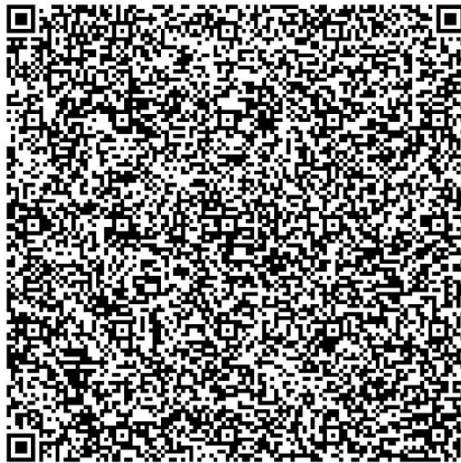
They ended up disappearing from the area in the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, when they were replaced by motor vehicles.

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# The Donkey

(El Burro)



## **The Donkey**

(El Burro)

Formerly in this same place one could find one of the traditional shops where you could buy anything. A lot of neighbours of Agüimes, as well as neighbours of Barranco de Guayadeque, visited this shop. These came with their donkeys to sell the products they produced, such as cheese, almonds, prickly-pears, wicker baskets, palm mats and yams, and they use these places to buy the things they needed.

It was very usual to exchange, especially in times when money was limited. This type of shops had a part on the desk destined to work as a canteen where they used to serve a lot of drinks, mainly coffee, wine and rum.

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